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FBI

Plan for the Revised FIEND Operation

9 January 1950

I. Policy

a. The overall policy governing the revised FIEND operation is set forth in the OPC Memorandum of 6 December 1949 (Attachment A) which has received the approval of ~~the Department of State.~~ The objectives of the revised operation are:

1. ". . . the establishment and maintenance, both inside and outside Albania, of capabilities which will allow us maneuverability in a developing situation and which will permit us to exploit any developments which may occur with respect to either Yugoslavia or Albania."

2. ". . . should be designed to weaken or eliminate the usefulness to the Cominform of Albania as a base of operations against Yugoslavia . . ."

The ~~above~~ operational principles of the revised operations are:

1. ". . . to give impression they are undertaken for intelligence purposes . . ."

2. ". . . continue to support and guide the Committee for Free Albania..."

3. ". . . undertake propaganda activities by all possible channels . . ."

4. ". . . undertake action in the economic field to exacerbate the already difficult economic situation in Albania. . ."

5. ". . . recruit, under conditions of proper security, a small reserve of Albanian manpower . . ."

6. ". . . abandon any concept of 'shock-force' . . ."

7. ". . . continue the infiltration of agents into Albania . . ."

II. Operations

1. Factors on which Operations must be based

a. It must be assumed that neither the Albanian leaders nor the Albanian agents can be trusted to keep any information of any sort secret.

b. Operational training must be conducted in part at least by Americans or British.

c. Individual Albanians will not allow themselves to be trained or infiltrated into the country without the knowledge and approval of their own leaders.

d. The knowledge that the United States is supporting the operation is a source of considerable pride to the Albanians participating in it and it is certain that those infiltrated into the country will use American and British sponsorship as a major inducement in getting indigenous Albanians to support their operations.

e. The number of parties to be trained and infiltrated over any given period would be determined in accordance with circumstances prevailing at the time. The duration of the operation cannot now be estimated, and any dates arrived at in connection with operational planning for the number of parties to be infiltrated into Albania at any one time bear no relation to the culmination of disruptive action, but rather to morale and other considerations affecting the agents.

f. The operation must be set up in a manner which will prevent any documentary evidence of any sort concerning American or British participation falling into the hands of the Communists.

g. Adequate operational security must be provided in order to protect to the maximum extent possible the operations going on within the country.

2. Holding Base

a. An overt holding area for approximately three hundred Albanians (including a small percentage of women and children) will be established in the U. S. Zone of Germany, subject to the approval of the American authorities. This camp will be set up in the name of the Committee for Free Albania. It will be administered by the Albanians themselves amongst whom will be an Albanian-speaking representative of OPC. Its purpose will be primarily to provide a holding area so that operational bodies will be readily available for training and infiltration as required.

b. The camp will be established as a result of a request by the Committee for Free Albania to the U. S. High Commissioner for Germany for facilities for welfare activities by that Committee in view of the impending shutdown of IRO and as an interim measure until the Committee is able to make more permanent arrangements for Albanian refugees. The Albanian refugees at the camp will include IRO refugees from Italy and non-IRO

refugees from Italy, Greece, Turkey, Syria, and Egypt.

c. Although no operational training will be conducted at the base, it will provide the opportunity to observe and evaluate individuals for future use. Certain types of political indoctrination can be conducted informally. However, the base will be operated in such a way that complete access can safely be given at a moments notice to reporters and other investigators. It must be assumed that the camp will be penetrated by Communist agents.

3. Training Bases

a. Two isolated safe houses for training and one isolated safe house for W/T training will be established in the U. S. Zone of Germany or the U. S. Zone of Austria. Personnel, equipment and supplies for these clandestine schools will be provided by the Americans. Training will be conducted by one or more American or British instructors in civilian clothing, together with one Albanian interpreter. The Albanians will never be permitted to know the instructors' true identity.

b. Small individual parties will receive intense operational training for a two or three-week period at these covert bases. Each party will be removed from the holding base without any previous notice and will be transported secretly to the training bases in such a way that the Albanians will not know the bases' location. The trainees will be kept under constant surveillance and will not be permitted to leave their training base.

4. Infiltration

a. Infiltration will be accomplished by secretly removing the Albanians from the training bases and transporting them covertly to Klagenfurt in the British Zone of Austria, or if the airfield there is not available, to Salzburg in the U. S. Zone of Austria. This will be accomplished in such a way that the Albanians have no knowledge of the location of the airfield. From this airfield air drop operations would be run into Albania with unmarked aircraft operated by Polish crews. If sea staging is necessary the agents will be taken to Malta for infiltration from there.

5. Communications

a. Communications between field and base should be by W/T. The W/T training of Albanian W/T field operators will take from three to six months.

b. As an alternative means of communication we should arrange for the operation of V. H. F. This will entail the use of two aircraft in addition to any used for infiltration.

6. Implication of Security Regulations

a. In the event the Albanian agents are captured, it must be assumed that they will tell all they know. They will state that they have American and British support and, in order to substantiate this, they will describe the location of the overt holding area and will identify men operating it. They will attempt to describe the location of the covert training house and will attempt to identify the individuals who conducted the training. They will attempt to describe the transportation from Germany to Albania and the route followed.

b. In this event, we should be perfectly willing to admit the location of the holding area and to allow anyone to inspect the area. However, there should be no way of locating the covert training bases and, if they are located, they will by that time be completely empty. The identity of the British and American officers who conducted the training will not be known.

c. The United States Government's reply to any accusations would follow the line that there is an Albanian refugee camp in Germany which is open to inspection. It is a welfare camp and no illegal activities are conducted there. All further charges should be denied as being complete fiction.

III. Propaganda Attack

a. The methods, organization and operational requirements for the propaganda attack against Albania are outlined in the paper, The Execution of Propaganda Attacks Against Albania (Attachment B).

b. Negotiations are progressing in England for the procurement of motor fishing vessel to be used for medium wave broadcasts.

IV. Personnel and Material Requirements

a. The requirements for personnel and material are outlined in the paper, BGFIEND Personnel and Material Needs (Attachment C).